

REMARKS

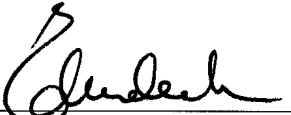
Claims 17-18 and 57-63 are pending. Claims 59-60 and 63 are allowed.

The Examiner objected to each of Claims 57-58 and 62 for reciting "the method comprising" in an apparatus claim. Accordingly, Applicant has amended Claims 57-58 and 62 to recite "the apparatus comprising". Claims 57-58 and 62 are believed allowable.

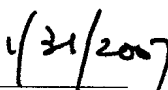
The Examiner rejected Claims 17-18 and 61 under 35 U.S.C. § 101 as being directed to non-statutory tangible subject matter. The Examiner reasoned that the claims do not recite reporting when no error occurs. Accordingly, Claims 17-18 and 61 are amended to report the result of a comparison, regardless of whether or not an error occurs. Reconsideration and allowance of Claims 17-18 and 61 are therefore requested.

For the above reasons, Applicant respectfully submits that all pending claims (i.e., Claims 17-18 and 57-63) are allowable. If the Examiner has any questions, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned at (408) 392-9250.

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